

Helping your child to read and write.



Reading to children:

- provides a model of fluent reading.
- involves children in reading for enjoyment.
- expands their vocabulary
- promotes oral language development.
- provides a model for writing

Sharing reading and writing:

- provides support for reading and writing
- provides opportunities to participate as a reader and a writer.

What do I do when my child comes to an unfamiliar word?

You can help them by **pausing** and waiting for them to attempt the word and then **prompting** by telling them to:

- Get their mouth ready for the initial letter sound in a word
- Look at the word ending
- Look for little words that they know inside the word e.g. ball more
- Look for familiar chunks of letter sounds, e.g. 'ing', 'ight', 'ick', etc
- Read on for a few more words and then come back to the word.
- Re-read and continue on reading if it makes sense
- **Praise** them

The text needs to make sense to them; they need to be searching for meaning as they are reading.

Writing:

When your child is writing encourage them to talk about the message in their writing. They may need to talk about an idea or draw a picture first.

